

manufacturing, but the results have not been considerable. No attempts were made in the past to control the conditions of labour as no occasion arose for such control. It is now proposed to carry out an intensive and accurate survey of the economic condition of the State and the results of this survey will form the basis of the future economic policy of the State.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What is the kind of occasion which the Government require, may I know?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—The adoption of a definite economic policy presupposes the possession of sufficient data regarding the economic condition and needs of the State to warrant State action. We have not got here sufficient organised labour as in European Countries and it will be too premature to launch upon such a scheme until the ground is ready for it. We are more or less agriculturists and I do not think labour conditions here warrant any such things just at present.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The question is 'Will the Government be pleased to state the main aspects of their general economic policy'. Have you been following any general economic policy; and if so, what is it?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—It is stated in the answer what the Government has been doing—something to encourage rising manufacturing concerns and further than that nothing is warranted at present.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—May I know what the Government have done for the protection of cottage industries in the State?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—The Government has said, 'As no occasion arose'. May I know the nature of the occasion for the Government to move in the matter?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know by what time they hope to complete the survey?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It might take more than one year.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—From now or from its inception?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—From its inception.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Have the Government given any instruction to the officer in charge of the survey as regards the time to be taken?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No definite period has been fixed.

Prices of Agricultural produces.

7. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—Will the Government be pleased to state how the Government have been stabilising the

prices of Agricultural produces and what more they can do in the matter?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—The fluctuation in prices and the depression in the trade are worldwide. It is not within the power of this Government to stabilize the prices of agricultural products.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What about agricultural tariffs, may I know in this connection?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I don't understand.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know whether agricultural tariffs and productive duties have any bearing on this issue?

President.—It is a general economic question. That is not a supplementary question.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Are the Government aware that there are countries which have instituted productive duties in this connection?

President.—It is not a supplementary question.

Divisions—Legislative Council.

8. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—With reference to question No. 374 of the last sittings, regarding defeats sustained by the Government in the Council, will the Government be pleased to state how they account for so many defeats in such a short time?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The Member is referred to the discussions on the several points at issue which will give the reasons for the differences of opinion between the Government and the non-official members.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is not this answer something like the proposition that A is A?

President.—I cannot allow that question.

Books—Legislative Council Library.

9. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—With reference to question No. 390 of the last sitting, regarding books suggested for the Council Library, will the Government be pleased to state when they hope to find funds for the same and how they found funds for 'snake-bites' and such other costly unnecessaries for a Council Library?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Possibly in 1109 M. E. The 'Hand book on snake-bite' was purchased early in 1106 when funds permitted. No costly unnecessaries have been purchased for the Council Library.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What about my question 'when they hope to find funds'?